



# A Happy Christmas for Everybody

Our Beautiful Display Meets the Requirements of All.  
Desirable and Useful Remembrances

The most acceptable Christmas gift to your friend is jewelry. No other kind of gift carries so much sentiment or appreciation. Our large selection comprises many exquisite designs in gold, silver and diamonds. The prices range from the inexpensive to the higher priced articles.

Watch Bracelets and watches of all kinds. All reliable makes and the best designs. Watch Bracelets are especially good.

Diamonds and Diamond Jewelry. Gold Bracelets, Gold Lavaliers, Gold Chains, Lockets, Knives, Pins, Tie Clasps, Rings, Fobs, Cameos, Cuff Links, etc.

Fancy and Toilet articles, Toilet Sets, Manicure Sets, Silver and Ivory. Silverware, Brass Goods, Clocks, etc.

Many articles that cannot be mentioned here. Such goods as we sell make useful and lasting gifts.

"TO ENJOY THE DAY MAKE OTHERS HAPPY"  
You Are Always Welcome.

## Geo. E. Bisanar

Jeweler and Optician



## Special Prices: Bargains:

Hats, trimmings, ribbons, novelties, etc., will be sold at great reduction from now until January, 1916.

It will pay to buy your headware now—while these prices prevail. Call and let us fit you in hats.

ONLY THE BEST IN MILLINERY

### Miss Mary Rosebrough



For Christmas Gifts

**NAROBIA**  
GUARANTEED FURS

"The Society to Prevent Useless Giving" would surely recommend a Narobia Set. What gift could be more appreciated by the woman who strives to dress smartly? What fur-gift could be more lasting, for NAROBIA FURS ARE GUARANTEED FOR COLOR, STYLE AND WEAR.

The little "Yellow Tag" fastened to every Muff or Neckpiece is your "warranty deed" that they won't fade, never pull out and are super-smartly styled.  
Sold Only By

## J. A. Bowles

## Holiday Hats

Special prices on all trimmed and untrimmed hats. Many good untrimmed shapes at 98c. Be sure and call and get a new hat for the holidays. Hats to suit your price.

Mrs. W. R. Beckley

Over Thompson-West Co. store.

# Get Your Shoes

Practically at Cost

In order to close out our entire stock of shoes all the season's styles are going at cost and all the rest of our stock at and below cost. If you are going to need a pair of shoes within the next year it will pay you to come to our store and buy them before January 1. Our stock consists of shoes for the whole family, from baby up, heavy work shoes and dress shoes included. Everybody knows Selz Shoes. They are guaranteed to give satisfaction.

BUY YOUR SHOES HERE AND SAVE MONEY

## Southworth's

"Selz Royal Blue" Shoe Store

## SCHOOL OF MUSKETRY

Some Facts About a Branch of the Service Little Known  
(By Associated Press.)

Fort Sill, Okla. Dec. 20.—The school of musketry of the United States army—the only school of its kind in the country—will open at the reservation here shortly before the first of January. The exact date has not been decided upon, as the new buildings which are to house the school have not yet been fully completed.

The school is for the training of officers and non-commissioned officials of the army in directing and controlling the fire of bodies of troops and in the systematic handling and formation of troops under fire. Individual marksmanship is taught. The school was organized last July. It was located at Fort Sill because of the presence here of the School of Fire and Field Artillery, with which it cooperates, and because of the reservation, which is the largest in the country. Later on, the war department intends to install regimental schools in each post and then the instruction here will be turned into a normal school for the training of teachers.

The idea of mass firing, as opposed to individual marksmanship, was first conceived by an Italian general about twenty years ago. It was developed by the Germans and finally adopted by the other European countries and musketry schools now are established in all European armies.

The first investigation of the possibilities of mass firing was made in this country seven years ago at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Captain H. E. James, now assistant commandant of the school at Fort Sill, was selected to take charge of the work. He found nothing in the English language on the subject. The problems and formulas which he worked out now comprise the textbook for the army. The results of test lessons conducted under simulated war conditions have demonstrated the practicability of the theory and the need of thoroughly trained officers, according to the army officials. They point out that two years ago at the annual rifle meet at Camp Perry, O., a company of the best civilian marksmen was formed to fire in competition with a company chosen at random from the army. The army shooters, although the regulars were only average individual marksmen, were commanded by an officer trained in mass firing. The civilians were easily defeated.

The reservation of Fort Sill is a rolling prairie, particularly adapted to rifle practice at considerable distances. Besides being taught range finding and fire control, the officers are taught the art of concealing troops from fire and the most advantageous methods of formation in moving a body of troops across a fire-swept field, or against an enemy position.

The school is divided into five classes and composed of fifteen field officers, thirty company and troop officers, fifteen machine gun officers and one hundred ten non-commissioned officers. The field officers above the rank of captain are being trained as instructors to command the regimental schools which are to be established. Colonel R. M. Blatchford is commandant of the school. In addition to teaching fire and machine gun fire, the school is entrusted with the teaching of new rifles, targets and ammunition.

## Wrote "Casey Jones" Dying

Los Angeles Times.  
Apparently penniless and estranged from his wife, T. Lawrence Seibert, the man who is said to have made \$10,000 by writing the words of "Casey Jones" a popular ballad, was taken to the county hospital in a dying condition.  
He was brought from Banning here he was injured in an accident. Mrs. Seibert resides at 1212 East 10th street. Detectives were sent to acquaint her of Mr. Seibert's plight. According to the officers, Mrs. Seibert stated that, as she had not seen her husband for several years and had heard nothing from him, she is undecided what to do.

## Professional Jealousy

Baltimore Sun.  
Billy Sunday when asked to comment on the Ford excursion to Europe delivered himself as follows: "I think honor is not a thing to be put over the top of a man. I have turned over in his grave and said, 'I have got to hand it to you, Henry, you've got me skinned.'"  
This is the opinion of an expert on advertising and will carry great weight with the knowing ones. It is generally admitted that when the Rev. William does not know about the advertising business is not worth while learning. But it fills us with sorrow to see a celestial mind like his give way to petty professional jealousy. Instead of sneering at Henry, a magnanimous rival would applaud his greatness. Moreover, as a matter of policy, all advertising men should stand together.

## Booker Washington's Service to His Race

Progressive Farmer.  
Booker T. Washington who died the other day was the wisest and shrewdest leader his race has ever had (it being natural to believe, however, that his ability came from his white father rather than his negro mother). He rendered service to the negro race in making them realize the dignity of labor. Twenty years ago in his famous speech at the Atlanta Exposition, Washington summoned up his philosophy in two characteristic sentences:

"Our greatest danger is that we may overlook the fact that the masses of us are to live by the production of our lands and fail to keep in mind that we shall prosper in common labor and not brains and skill into the common occupations of life."  
"No race can prosper till it learns that there is as much dignity in tilling a field as in writing a poem."  
When the writer visited Tuskegee Institute several years ago he found the place adorned with mottoes embodying the same idea. "Nothing is Drudgery That We Do Willingly" and similar thoughts everywhere to praise work, encourage work, dignify work, ennoble work.

## Disconcerting.

Tid-Bits.  
A candidate for parliamentary honors was addressing a political meeting in the morning of England. Anxious to make friends with his audience, he began thus:  
"Gentlemen, I am very pleased to address a working class constituency. It may interest you to know that I am a workingman myself—in fact I often work when you are asleep."  
"You must be a burglar, then!" said a voice at the back of the hall.

## Of Course

Christmas without Good Candy

Send her a box of Our Fresh

Delicious

Chocolates

**LUTZ**

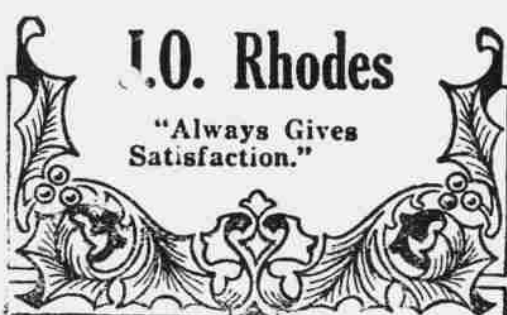
"On the Corner"  
Phones 17 and 317.



**XMAS**

**GIFTS OF QUALITY**

Fine Gold Jewelry, Watches, Silver and French Ivory novelties.  
A gift that pleases all.



**J. O. Rhodes**

"Always Gives Satisfaction."

## Auction Sale

Of valuable residence in front of First National Bank, Monday January 3, 1916, 2:30 p. m.

One 6-room house with electric lights and city water. Size of lot 87 x 412 1/2 feet. Located at No. 1015 Seventh avenue, and known as the Lafayette Shell property.

**TERMS**—Cash, with the privilege of transferring 11 shares of B. & L. stock in series "A" with \$1100 borrowed from First Building & Loan Association.

C. E. KALE,  
Catwaba, N. C.

## MAKING PURE GOLD BRICKS

War Renders Work at Government Assay Office Unusually Heavy  
New York Evening Post.

Shovelling bright, golden British sovereigns, French napoleons and Japanese 10 and 20 yen pieces with a big scoop pretty much as the man who tends the furnace tosses coal is the daily task of a force of husky men in an underground smelting room in Pine street. The temperature of the place is high, roaring, blue flame gas jets under huge earthenware melting pots give forth a shrilling heat that is a constant, sickening odor in the confined humid atmosphere, and, occasionally, as a portion of clean charcoal is thrown in, puffs of smoke swirl round the prepping workers, producing a weird effect. The scene reminds one of youthful imaginings of the giant of old in some of their extravagant tales or of mental pictures suggested by pages of Albertus Magnus, John Dee and other ancient alchemists of mediaeval days, when it was believed that gold could be made out of baser metals.

And the shovellers, naked to the waist like the stokers on a transatlantic liner, are making gold—gold bricks of the shape of an ordinary house brick, weighing about 22 pounds and worth about \$7,000 a block.

The place where the golden transformation scene is being enacted six and more recently seven—days in the basement of the United States assay office, next door to the treasury building Verne M. Jovie, superintendent of the office, is authority for the statement that his staff is being driven harder now than ever before. This is, of course, because of the flood of gold coin pouring into New York to pay the bills of the allies for munitions of war and other necessities. The balance of trade being heavily in favor of this country, and gold being, of course, the international basis of pay, it follows that the precious yellow metal is flowing to this country. A day or two ago the writer heard Mr. Jovie say to newspaper men on their daily visit for an account of the sum received:

"Only about two millions today. Not much; just an ordinary day."

## Why He Couldn't Cry

In a court in a certain city of Pennsylvania, according to the Baltimore American, both the judge and the crier had grown old in the service, and neither had missed a single day for many years. One day the judge addressed the bench and waited for the "Oyez, Oyez," with which the court is opened by the crier but on this particular occasion no "Oyez" was forthcoming. The old jurist, growing impatient, turned to the court clerk and said:

"Where is Thomas Grimes the crier, today to open the court according to law?"  
To which the clerk replied:  
"May it please your honor, Thomas Grimes says he can't cry today, his wife died last night."

Bowles' Furniture Company for Xmas presents that have lasting remembrance qualities.

# Just Four Days

And Then Christmas. Are You Ready?

Our Stock of Useful Gifts, Beautifully Boxed Has Never Been so Complete nor Attractive

TWENTY FIVE (25) PER CENT OFF ON ALL COAT SUITS  
LADIES' COATS, CHILDREN'S COATS and DRESSES

## A FEW SUGGESTIONS FOR PRACTICAL GIVING

For Twenty-five Cents

5 and 6 Handkerchiefs  
Three Handkerchiefs  
Silk and Linen Handkerchiefs  
Boxed Ladies' Neckwear  
Boxed Men's Ties  
Jitney Purse  
Hat Pin Sets  
Cuff Pin Sets  
Bar and Circle Pins  
Men's Garters  
Ivory Novelties  
Children's Gloves  
Linen Towels  
Hair Ribbons  
Silk Windsor Ties  
Two Pairs Child ren's Hose  
Two Pairs Ladies' Hose

For Fifty Cents

Boxed Handkerchiefs  
Boxed Lad-Neckwear  
Silk Hosiery  
Leather Handbags  
Leather Hand Purses  
Ivory Novelties  
Children's Bracelets  
Infants' Shoes  
Hat Pin Sets  
Cuff Pin Sets  
Boy Scout Gloves  
Linen Towels  
Men's Silk Ties  
Large Middy Ties  
Novelty Belts  
Baby Sashes  
Crib Blankets  
Boudoir Caps

TWENTY FIVE (25) PER CENT OFF ON ALL LADIES' COAT SUITS, LADIES' COATS AND CHILDREN'S COATS

# Thompson-West Co.

"The Ladies' Store"

Hickory, N. C.

# Seasonable Hints

**BOOKS**—A book is an ideal Christmas gift—that is acknowledged by everybody. The choice is left with you—it may be a Bible or a Testament (no book more appropriate); a Holiday Book, beautiful in illustration and cover; a new volume of fiction; a book for the child (don't forget the children); or a little book of Good Cheer and kindly Christmas wishes.

**PICTURES**—Next to a book as a gift comes a picture. A beautiful picture is not necessarily expensive, and, rightly chosen for a friend, it always carries with it a suggestion of refinement and culture.

**STATIONERY**—Nothing daintier than a pretty box of paper and envelopes. Nothing more acceptable to one who corresponds.

**FOUNTAIN PENS**—For the one who writes much or little choose a Fountain Pen. We have just received four dozen of the latest improved Self-filling Waterman pens. No pen better than this.

**CALENDARS, BOOKLETS, POST CARDS**—There are so many, many friends to be remembered—the Christmas card, the calendar, or the post card must be chosen for some of them. Often, too, these are more highly prized than the expensive gifts.

**GIFT DRESSINGS**—Holly Boxes, Christmas Seals, Tags, Stamps and Ribbon add the finishing touch to any gift, however small it may be. The Dennison and Gibson lines are prettier than ever this year. We have both these lines, the best to be had. (Nothing too good for Hickory Folks).

WHEN CHRISTMAS shopping, don't forget to visit

# The Van Dyke Shop

# Select Your Christmas Gifts Now

Holiday buying is easy at our store. The question of "What to give" is solved when you see our stock.

A study of our offerings is a pleasure rich in Holiday inspiration and suggestion.

We have the gifts for everybody at prices that please—Come and see.

Our 1915 Holiday display of Dolls, Toys and Fancy Goods are now on display and we will be glad to have you make our store headquarters for your Christmas shopping.

We have a good stock of Ladies' Coats and Millinery which we will give special prices to close out by Christmas.

All of our Ladies' and Children's hats and trimmings will be reduced to one-half price.

Respectfully,

## W. T. SLEDGE

HICKORY, N. C.